New oil and gas blocks for exploration

2351. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have offered 55 oil and gas blocks under the sixth round of bidding;

(b) if so, the details of the proposals along with the total estimates of oil and gas reserves;

(c) what percentage of India's oil and gas requirements will be met by domestic production once these blocks start production; and

(d) by when production from these block is expected to start?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. The Government of India, on 23rd February, 2006, has offered 55 blocks comprising of 24 deep water, 6 shallow water and 25 onshore blocks under the sixth round of New Exploration Licensing Policy (NELP-VI). The bid closing date for these blocks is 15th September, 2006. These are exploration blocks where exploration of oil and gas is proposed to be carried out. The exploration period for any of these blocks is 7-8 years. The estimated gas reserve and likely production will depend on the size of the discovery, if any, after exploration. Hence, no estimate of reserves and production can be made at this stage.

Shortage of kerosene in Jammu

2352. SHRI T. S. BAJWA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the quota of kerosene allotted to Jammu and Kashmir during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) whether there is acute shortage of kerosene oil in Jammu area; and

(c) if so, whether Government propose to increase the quota?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) The quantity of PDS

kerosene allocated to Jammu and Kashmir during 2003-04, 2004-05 and 2005-06 is as under:—

Year	Quantity (In MTs)
2003-04	79526
2004-05	75487
2005-06	76044

(b) and (c) This Ministry has received representations from various state Government/Union Territories, including the Government of Jammu and Kashmir, for the enhancement of their SKO quota.

Effective 2nd October 2005, Government launched the Jan Kerosene Pariyojana as a pilot project in 413 blocks covering 23 States and one Union Territory for a period of six months to strengthen and streamline the infrastructure for kerosen distribution and to involve the Gram Sabhas and Gram Panchayats and State Panchayati Raj Institutions in the supervision of PDS kerosene distribution, so as to ensure that the entitled beneficiaries actually receive their entitlement and deversion to adulteration and black-marketing is capped, reversed and eventually eliminated.

Mixture of water in LPG cylinders

2353. SHRI LALIT SURI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether complaints were received in Delhi that LPG cylinders supplied in September, 2005, contained water alongwith the gas cheating thereby the consumers;

(b) if so, the number of such complaints received in Delhi during that month alongwith the names of gas agencies which supplied such cylinders; and

(c) the action taken against the defaulting companies and their employees for cheating the comsumers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) have reported 3 cases of water filled cylinders to consumers by LPG distributors of